

**From:** [Crossland, Ronnie](#)  
**To:** [Assunto, Carmen](#)  
**Cc:** [Smith, Monica](#); [Petersen, Chris](#); [Smalley, Bryant](#); [Adams, Adam](#); [Loesel, Matthew](#); [Mason, Steve](#); [Bokun, Lisa](#)  
**Subject:** RE: AP INQUIRY: Houston ITC fire-water contamination question on deadline  
**Date:** Wednesday, March 20, 2019 1:23:14 PM

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Carmen

You might also want to check with USCG

Ronnie

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**From:** Assunto, Carmen  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 20, 2019 1:02 PM  
**To:** Crossland, Ronnie <[Crossland.Ronnie@epa.gov](mailto:Crossland.Ronnie@epa.gov)>  
**Cc:** Smith, Monica <[smith.monica@epa.gov](mailto:smith.monica@epa.gov)>; Petersen, Chris <[petersen.chris@epa.gov](mailto:petersen.chris@epa.gov)>; Smalley, Bryant <[smalley.bryant@epa.gov](mailto:smalley.bryant@epa.gov)>; Adams, Adam <[Adams.Adam@epa.gov](mailto:Adams.Adam@epa.gov)>; Loesel, Matthew <[loesel.matthew@epa.gov](mailto:loesel.matthew@epa.gov)>; Mason, Steve <[mason.steve@epa.gov](mailto:mason.steve@epa.gov)>; Bokun, Lisa <[Bokun.Lisa@epa.gov](mailto:Bokun.Lisa@epa.gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: AP INQUIRY: Houston ITC fire-water contamination question on deadline

Here is draft response. Please edit as you see fit:

**ITC has said it's finding petrochemicals from the fire in the water at Houston's Ship Channel. Can you please advise soonest what EPA is going on that \_ is it aware, what kind of chemicals, is it a public health threat, is it testing or does it have test results?**

Foam and product from fire-fighting operations has been found in runoff and has been observed in the Ship Channel. ITC is applying boom. TCEQ, ITC and EPA are taking water samples and monitoring the air. There are no results at this time.

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**From:** Crossland, Ronnie  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 20, 2019 11:53 AM  
**To:** Assunto, Carmen <[Assunto.Carmen@epa.gov](mailto:Assunto.Carmen@epa.gov)>  
**Cc:** Smith, Monica <[smith.monica@epa.gov](mailto:smith.monica@epa.gov)>; Petersen, Chris <[petersen.chris@epa.gov](mailto:petersen.chris@epa.gov)>; Smalley, Bryant <[smalley.bryant@epa.gov](mailto:smalley.bryant@epa.gov)>; Adams, Adam <[Adams.Adam@epa.gov](mailto:Adams.Adam@epa.gov)>; Loesel, Matthew <[loesel.matthew@epa.gov](mailto:loesel.matthew@epa.gov)>; Mason, Steve <[mason.steve@epa.gov](mailto:mason.steve@epa.gov)>  
**Subject:** Re: AP INQUIRY: Houston ITC fire-water contamination question on deadline

We have manufacturing data on some of the foam used and we are taking samples of the discharge

Sent from my iPhone

On Mar 20, 2019, at 11:51 AM, Assunto, Carmen <[Assunto.Carmen@epa.gov](mailto:Assunto.Carmen@epa.gov)> wrote:

If you want me to add other people to the emails for media inquiries, please let me

know. This is from HQ.

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**From:** Bokun, Lisa  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 20, 2019 11:22 AM  
**To:** Assunto, Carmen <[Assunto.Carmen@epa.gov](mailto:Assunto.Carmen@epa.gov)>  
**Cc:** Taheri, Diane <[Taheri.Diane@epa.gov](mailto:Taheri.Diane@epa.gov)>  
**Subject:** FW: AP INQUIRY: Houston ITC fire-water contamination question on deadline  
**Importance:** High

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**From:** Sauerhage, Maggie  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 20, 2019 11:13 AM  
**To:** Taheri, Diane <[Taheri.Diane@epa.gov](mailto:Taheri.Diane@epa.gov)>; Bokun, Lisa <[Bokun.Lisa@epa.gov](mailto:Bokun.Lisa@epa.gov)>  
**Cc:** Grantham, Nancy <[Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov](mailto:Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov)>  
**Subject:** AP INQUIRY: Houston ITC fire-water contamination question on deadline  
**Importance:** High

Hi Diane and Lisa – see below from the AP. Can you help respond please?

**ITC has said it's finding petrochemicals from the fire in the water at Houston's Ship Channel. Can you please advise soonest what EPA is going on that \_ is it aware, what kind of chemicals, is it a public health threat, is it testing or does it have test results?**

Maggie Sauerhage  
Office of Public Affairs  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
Office: (202) 564-0443  
Cell: (202) 704-6352